UNITED NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/47/670
25 November 1992

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-seventh session
Agenda item 94

ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

Report of the Third Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Vitavas SRIVIHOK (Thailand)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 18 September 1992, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its forty-seventh session the item entitled "Advancement of women" and to allocate it to the Third Committee.

2. The Committee considered the item at its 19th to 26th, 28th, 30th, 32nd and 35th meetings, from 27 to 30 October and on 2, 4, 5, 9 and 11 November 1992. An account of the Committee's discussions is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.3/47/SR.19-26, 28, 30, 32 and 35).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documentation:

(a) Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (A/47/38); 1/

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (A/47/368);

1/ To be issued as Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/47/38).

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women to the Year 2000 (A/47/377);

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on the improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat (A/47/508);

(e) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme on the activities of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (A/47/340);

(f) Letter dated 30 January 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Sri Lanka to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/47/82-S/23512);

(g) Letter dated 6 February 1992 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Senegal to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/47/88-S/23563);

(h) Letter dated 17 August 1992 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Solomon Islands to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/47/391);

(i) Letter dated 25 August 1992 from the Permanent Representative of China to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/47/564).

4. At the 19th meeting, on 27 October, introductory statements were made by the Director of the Division for the Advancement of Women of the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, the Director of the United Nations Development Fund for Women and the Focal Point for Women in the Office of Human Resources Management (see A/C.3/47/SR.19). At the 26th meeting, on 2 November, the Director of the United Nations Development Fund for Women made concluding remarks (see A/C.3/47/SR.26).

II. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS

A. Draft resolution A/C.3/47/L.21

5. At the 28th meeting, on 4 November 1992, the representative of Canada, on behalf of Afghanistan, Albania, Angola, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, the Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Djibouti, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Kenya, Lesotho, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Malawi, Mali, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, the Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Poland, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Senegal, Singapore, Sweden, Thailand, Togo, Turkey, Ukraine, the United States of

America, Uruguay, Venezuela and Zimbabwe, introduced a draft resolution (A/C.3/47/L.21) entitled "Improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat". Subsequently, Belize, Guinea-Bissau, Latvia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Panama, Peru, the Philippines, Saint Kitts and Nevis and Samoa joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

6. At its 30th meeting, on 5 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/47/L.21 without a vote (see para. 17, draft resolution I).

7. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uganda (see A/C.3/47/SR.30).

B. Draft resolution A/C.3/47/L.22

8. At the 28th meeting, on 4 November, the representative of Finland, on behalf of Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Barbados, Canada, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Indonesia, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, the Russian Federation, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden and Ukraine, introduced a draft resolution (A/C.3/47/L.22) entitled "Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women". Subsequently, Belarus, Ecuador, Egypt, Malawi, Mexico, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Samoa and Turkey joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

9. In introducing the draft resolution, the representative of Finland, orally revised operative paragraph 17, which read:

> "17. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution and to transmit the report to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-seventh session";

to read:

> "17. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution and to make the report available to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-ninth session".

10. At its 30th meeting, on 5 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/47/L.22, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 17, draft resolution II).

C. Draft resolution A/C.3/47/L.23

11. At the 28th meeting, on 4 November, the representative of Pakistan, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77, introduced a draft resolution (A/C.3/47/L.23) entitled "Implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women", and orally revised it as follows:

(a) In operative paragraph 8, the words "of China" were inserted after the word "Government";

(b) Operative paragraph 25 was deleted and the subsequent paragraphs renumbered.

12. At its 30th meeting, on 5 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/47/L.23, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 17, draft resolution III).

D. Draft resolution A/C.3/47/L.24

13. At the 32nd meeting, on 9 November, the representative of the Philippines, on behalf of Australia, Chile, China, Costa Rica, El Salvador, France, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mexico, Nicaragua, the Philippines, the Russian Federation, Thailand and Uganda, introduced a draft resolution (A/C.3/47/L.24) entitled "Violence against women migrant workers", and orally revised it as follows:

(a) The title was changed to read "Migrant women workers";

(b) In the first preambular paragraph, the word "Noting" was replaced by the word "Recalling", and the word "affirms" was replaced by the word "reaffirms";

(c) In the seventh preambular paragraph, the words "some of" were inserted between the words "by" and "their";

(d) In operative paragraph 3, the words "to promote the safety of women subject to violence and" were inserted between the words "measures" and "to";

(e) In operative paragraph 4, the words "relevant human rights bodies," were inserted between the words "Nations" and "intergovernmental", and the words "the problem" were replaced by the words "violence against migrant women workers";

(f) Operative paragraph 6, which read:

> "Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session, through the Commission on the Status of Women and the Economic and Social Council, on the implementation of the present resolution under the item entitled 'Advancement of women'";

was replaced by the following paragraph:

"Requests the Secretary-General, in view of the time constraints and pending the completion of a written report, to make a preliminary oral report, through the Commission on the Status of Women and the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session, on the implementation of the present resolution under the item entitled 'Advancement of women'".

14. At the 35th meeting, on 11 November, the representative of the Philippines on behalf of the sponsors, further orally revised the draft resolution as follows:

(a) The revision to operative paragraph 3 was withdrawn;

(b) The revisions to operative paragraph 4 were withdrawn and then the words "bodies and" were inserted after the word "relevant".

15. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/47/L.24, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 17, draft resolution IV).

16. After the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of India made a statement (see A/C.3/47/SR.35).

III. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE

17. The Third Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

Improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat

The General Assembly,

Recalling Articles 1 and 101 of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling also Article 8 of the Charter, which provides that the United Nations shall place no restrictions on the eligibility of men and women to participate in any capacity and under conditions of equality in its principal and subsidiary organs,

Recalling further the relevant paragraphs of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, 2/ for the period up to the year 2000, especially paragraphs 79, 315, 356 and 358,

Recalling its resolution 2715 (XXV) of 15 December 1970, in which it first addressed the question of the employment of women in the Professional category, and all relevant resolutions that have continued to focus on this area since then,

Noting with concern that the goal of a 30 per cent participation rate of women in posts subject to geographical distribution by the end of 1990 was not achieved,

Recalling the goal set in its resolutions 45/125 of 14 December 1990, 45/239 C of 21 December 1990 and 46/100 of 16 December 1991 of a 35 per cent overall participation rate of women in posts subject to geographical distribution by 1995,

Recalling also the goal set in resolution 45/239 C of a 25 per cent participation rate of women in posts at the D-1 level and above by 1995,

Deeply concerned that there are now no women at the under-secretary-general level and only one at the assistant secretary-general level in the Secretariat,

Bearing in mind that a visible commitment by the Secretary-General, especially during the continuing restructuring phase, is essential to the achievement of the targets set by the General Assembly,

Welcoming the evaluation and analysis of the main obstacles to the improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat as contained in the Secretary-General's report, 3/

Welcoming also the Secretary-General's action programme aimed at removing obstacles to the improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat as contained in the above report,

---

2/ Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

3/ A/47/508.

1. Urges the Secretary-General to implement the action programme outlined in his report 4/ designed to overcome the obstacles to the improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat, noting that his visible commitment is essential to the achievement of the targets set by the General Assembly;

2. Also urges the Secretary-General, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, to accord greater priority to the recruitment and promotion of women in posts subject to geographical distribution, particularly in senior policy-level and decision-making posts, in order to achieve the goals set in resolutions 45/125, 45/239 C and 46/100 of an overall participation rate of 35 per cent by 1995 and 25 per cent in posts at the D-1 level and above by 1995;

3. Further urges the Secretary-General to use the opportunity offered by the United Nations reorganization process and the establishment of the Commission on Sustainable Development to promote more women into senior level positions;

4. Urges the Secretary-General to increase the number of women employed in the Secretariat from developing countries and other countries that have a low representation of women;

5. Strongly encourages Member States to support the efforts of the United Nations and the specialized agencies to increase the percentage of women in Professional posts, especially at the D-1 level and above, by identifying and submitting more women candidates, encouraging women to apply for vacant posts and creating national rosters of women candidates to be shared with the Secretariat, specialized agencies and regional commissions;

6. Requests the Secretary-General, within existing resources, to ensure that adequate machinery, with the authority of enforcement and the responsibility of accountability, including a senior-level official devoted to the implementation of the action programme and the recommendations in the report on the improvement of the status of women in the Secretariat, is maintained and strengthened during the course of the programme for the period 1991-1995;

7. Also requests the Secretary-General to ensure that a progress report is given to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-seventh session, and to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session.

4/ Ibid., sect. IV.

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind that one of the purposes of the United Nations, as stated in Articles 1 and 55 of the Charter, is to promote universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction of any kind, including distinction as to sex,

Affirming that women and men should participate equally in social, economic and political development, should contribute equally to such development and should share equally in improved conditions of life,

Recalling its resolution 34/180 of 18 December 1979, by which it adopted the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,

Recalling also its previous resolutions on the Convention, as well as Economic and Social Council resolution 1992/17 of 30 July 1992,

Taking note of the decisions taken on 4 February 1992 at the Sixth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention, 5/

Aware of the important contribution that the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women 6/ can make to eliminating all forms of discrimination against women and to achieving legal and de facto equality between women and men,

Noting the emphasis placed by the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, on the ratification of and accession to the Convention,

Having considered the reports of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on its tenth 7/ and eleventh 8/ sessions,

---

5/ See CEDAW/SP/1992/4.

6/ Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

7/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/46/38).

8/ A/47/38 (to be issued as Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 38).

Noting that the Committee agreed, in examining reports, to take due account of the different cultural and socio-economic systems of States parties to the Convention,

Noting also the importance of the monitoring function of the Committee, as demonstrated most recently in its general recommendation No. 19 on violence against women, adopted at its eleventh session, 9/

Concerned about the increased workload of the Committee,

Convinced of the need to adopt measures to enable the Committee to deal in a thorough and timely manner with reports submitted by States parties,

Recalling that, in article 17, paragraph 9, of the Convention, the Secretary-General is required to provide the necessary staff and facilities for the effective performance of the functions of the Committee,

Recalling also its resolutions 44/73 of 8 December 1989 and 45/124 of 14 December 1990, in which, inter alia, it strongly supported the view of the Committee that the Secretary-General should accord higher priority to strengthening support for the Committee,

Strongly supporting the Committee's general recommendation No. 19 on violence against women, and calling upon States parties to prepare their periodic reports in accordance with this and other general recommendations of the Committee,

Noting with satisfaction that the inter-sessional working group of the Commission on the Status of Women has completed its consideration of the draft declaration on the elimination of violence against women,

Welcoming other general recommendations contained in the reports of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on its tenth and eleventh sessions,

1. Expresses its satisfaction with the increasing number of States that have ratified or acceded to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, and supports the recommendation of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women to draw attention to those reservations which are incompatible with the objective and purpose of the Convention;

2. Urges all States that have not yet ratified or acceded to the Convention to do so as soon as possible;

9/ Ibid., sect. I.

3. Emphasizes the importance of the strictest compliance by States Parties with their obligations under the Convention;

4. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, 10/ and requests him to submit annually to the General Assembly a report on the status of the Convention;

5. Also takes note of the reports of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on its tenth 7/ and eleventh sessions; 8/

6. Invites States parties to the Convention to make all possible efforts to submit their initial as well as their second and subsequent periodic reports on the implementation of the Convention, in accordance with article 18 thereof and with the guidelines provided by the Committee, and to cooperate fully with the Committee in the presentation of their reports;

7. Welcomes the efforts made by the Committee to rationalize its procedures and expedite the consideration of periodic reports and to develop procedures and guidelines for the consideration of second and subsequent periodic reports, and strongly encourages the Committee to continue those efforts;

8. Welcomes also, in accordance with the Committee's general recommendation No. 11, 11/ the initiatives taken to provide regional training courses on the preparation and drafting of reports of States parties for government officials and training and information seminars for States considering acceding to the Convention, and urges the relevant organs and organizations of the United Nations to support such initiatives;

9. Recognizes the special relevance of the periodic reports of States parties to the Convention to the efforts of the Commission on the Status of Women to review and appraise the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women in those countries;

10. Requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to provide secretariat staff, including legal staff members expert in human rights treaty implementation, and technical resources for the effective performance by the Committee of its functions;

11. Strongly supports the view of the Committee that the Secretary-General should accord higher priority within existing resources to strengthening technical and substantive support for the Committee, in particular to assist in preparatory research;

10/ A/47/368.

11/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/44/38), sect. V.

12. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to provide for, facilitate and encourage, within existing resources, the dissemination of information relating to the Committee, its decisions and recommendations, the Convention and the concept of legal literacy, taking into account the Committee's own recommendations to that end;

13. Supports the request of the Committee for additional meeting time and requests that the Committee's twelfth and thirteenth sessions should be of three weeks' duration;

14. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure adequate support to the Committee, and also requests that sufficient resources from within the existing regular budget be provided for that purpose to enable the Committee to deal in a thorough and timely manner with reports submitted by States parties;

15. Decides that, at its forty-ninth session, it will review whether the backlog of the Committee in considering reports has been reduced;

16. Recommends that meetings of the Committee should be scheduled, whenever possible, to allow for the timely transmission of the results of its work to the Commission on the Status of Women, for information, in the same year;

17. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution and to make the report available to the Commission on the Status of Women at its thirty-ninth session.

DRAFT RESOLUTION III

Implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women

The General Assembly,

Recalling all its relevant resolutions, in particular resolution 44/77 of 8 December 1989, in which, inter alia, it endorsed and reaffirmed the importance of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women 12/ for the period up to the year 2000 and set out measures for their immediate implementation and for the overall achievement of the interrelated goals and objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace,

---

12/ Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

Recalling also its resolution 46/98 of 16 December 1991,

Taking into consideration the resolutions adopted by the Economic and Social Council on issues relating to women since the adoption of its resolution 1987/18 of 26 May 1987,

Reaffirming its determination to encourage the full participation of women in economic, social, cultural, civil and political affairs and to promote development, cooperation and international peace,

Conscious of the important and constructive contribution to the improvement of the status of women made by the Commission on the Status of Women, the specialized agencies, the regional commissions and other organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations concerned,

Concerned that the resources available to the programme on the advancement of women of the United Nations Secretariat are insufficient to ensure adequate support to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and effective implementation of other aspects of the programme, especially the preparations for the Fourth World Conference on Women, to be held in 1995,

Welcoming the completion of work on the draft Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women by the inter-sessional working group of the Commission on the Status of Women,

Recognizing the advancement of women as one of the priorities of the Organization for the biennium 1992-1993,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General; 13/

2. Reaffirms paragraph 2 of section I of the recommendations and conclusions arising from the first review and appraisal of the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, contained in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/15 of 24 May 1990, which called for an improved pace in the implementation of the Strategies in the crucial last decade of the twentieth century, since the cost to societies of failing to implement the Strategies would be high in terms of slowed economic and social development, misuse of human resources and reduced progress for society as a whole;

3. Urges Governments, international organizations and non-governmental organizations to implement the recommendations;

13/ A/47/377.

4. Calls again upon Member States to give priority to policies and programmes relating to the subtheme "Employment, health and education", in particular to literacy, for self-reliance of women and the mobilization of indigenous resources, as well as to issues relating to the role of women in economic and political decision-making, population, the environment and information;

5. Reaffirms the central role of the Commission on the Status of Women in matters related to the advancement of women, and calls upon it to continue promoting the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies to the year 2000, based on the goals of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace and the subtheme "Employment, health and education", and urges all relevant bodies of the United Nations system to cooperate effectively with the Commission in this task;

6. Requests the Commission, when considering the priority theme relating to development during its thirty-seventh and subsequent sessions, to ensure its early contribution to the preparatory work of forthcoming major international conferences such as the World Conference on Human Rights, to be held in 1993, the International Conference on Population and Development, to be held in 1994, the World Conference on Women, to be held in 1995, and the proposed World Summit on Social Development to be held in 1995, and to address the impact of technologies on women;

7. Also requests the Commission to give special attention to women in developing countries, particularly in Africa and the least developed countries, who suffer disproportionately from the effects of the global economic crisis and the heavy external debt burden, and to recommend further measures for the equalization of opportunity and for integration of these women into the development process when considering the priority theme of development;

8. Endorses Economic and Social Council decision 1992/272 of 30 July 1992 concerning the preparations for the Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace, in which the Council took note of Commission on the Status of Women resolution 36/8 of 20 March 1992, 14/ and expresses its appreciation to the Government of China for its offer to act as host for the World Conference on Women, to be held in Beijing from 4 to 15 September 1995;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to take into account section A, paragraph 6, of Commission resolution 36/8 when appointing the Secretary-General of the Conference;

14/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1992, Supplement No. 4 (E/1992/24), chap. I, sect. C.

10. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that appropriate staff from the secretariats of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and the Commission on the Status of Women participate in the preparatory process for the World Conference on Human Rights, as well as in the Conference itself, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 40/108 of 13 December 1985;

11. Recommends the further development of methods of compilation and data collection in areas of concern identified by the Commission and urges Member States to improve and broaden collection of gender desegregated statistical information and make it available to the relevant bodies of the United Nations system with a view to preparing, in all official languages, as a background document for the Fourth World Conference on Women, an updated edition of The World's Women 1970-1990: Trends and Statistics; 15/

12. Emphasizes, in the framework of the Forward-looking Strategies, the importance of the total integration of women in the development process, bearing in mind the specific and urgent needs of the developing countries, and calls upon Member States to establish specific targets at each level in order to increase the participation of women in professional, management and decision-making positions in their countries;

13. Emphasizes once again the need to give urgent attention to redressing socio-economic inequities at the national and international levels as a necessary step towards the full realization of the goals and objectives of the Forward-looking Strategies;

14. Urges the Commission to complete its work on the draft Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women and to submit it for information to the World Conference on Human Rights;

15. Strongly urges that particular attention be given by the relevant United Nations organizations and Governments to the special needs of women with disabilities, to elderly women and also to women in vulnerable situations such as migrant and refugee women and children;

16. Endorses the recommendation contained in Commission resolution 36/8 that regional preparatory conferences include in their agendas the issue of women in public life, as well as the request that the Secretary-General include information on women in public life in the preparation of the priority theme on peace: "women in international decision-making", for the Commission at its thirty-ninth session in 1995;

17. Welcomes the recommendations on women, environment and development in all programme areas, adopted at the United Nations Conference on

---

15/ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.90.XVII.3.

Environment and Development, held at Rio de Janeiro from 3 to 14 June 1992, in particular chapter 24 of Agenda 21, "Global action for women towards sustainable and equitable development"; 16/

18. Urges organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations to ensure active participation of women in the planning and implementation of programmes for sustainable development, and requests Governments to consider nominating women as representatives to the Commission on Sustainable Development;

19. Requests the Secretary-General, in formulating the system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women for the period 1996-2001 and in integrating the Forward-looking Strategies into activities mandated by the General Assembly, to pay particular attention to specific sectoral themes that cut across the three objectives, equality, development and peace, and include, in particular, literacy, education, health, population, the impact of technology on the environment and its effect on women and the full participation of women in decision-making, and to continue to assist Governments in strengthening their national machineries for the advancement of women;

20. Also requests the Secretary-General to continue updating the World Survey on the Role of Women in Development, 17/ bearing in mind its importance, placing particular emphasis on the adverse impact of the difficult economic situation affecting the majority of developing countries, particularly on the condition of women, giving special attention to worsening conditions for the incorporation of women into the labour force, as well as the impact of reduced expenditures for social services on women's opportunities for education, health and child care, and to submit a preliminary version of the updated World Survey on the Role of Women in Development to the Economic and Social Council, through the Commission, in 1993 and a final version in 1994;

21. Requests Governments, when presenting candidatures for vacancies in the Secretariat, in particular at the decision-making level, to give priority to women's candidatures, and requests the Secretary-General in reviewing these candidatures to give special consideration to female candidates from underrepresented and unrepresented developing countries;

22. Requests the Secretary-General to invite Governments, organizations of the United Nations system, including the regional commissions and the specialized agencies, and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations

---

16/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992, (A/CONF.151/26 (Vol. III)).

17/ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.89.IV.2.

to report periodically to the Economic and Social Council, through the Commission, on activities undertaken at all levels to implement the Forward-looking Strategies;

23. Also requests the Secretary-General to continue to provide for the existing weekly radio programmes on women in the regular budget of the United Nations, making adequate provisions for broadcasts in different languages, and to develop the focal point for issues relating to women in the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, which, in concert with the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, should provide a more effective public information programme relating to the advancement of women;

24. Further requests the Secretary-General to include in his report on the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies, to be submitted to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session, an assessment of recent developments that are relevant to the priority themes to be considered at the subsequent session of the Commission and to transmit to the Commission a summary of relevant views expressed by delegations during the debate in the Assembly;

25. Recommends that the Commission on the Status of Women, as the preparatory body for the Fourth World Conference on Women, should consider at its next session the relevance of the resolutions drafted at the 1985 World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace to the Fourth World Conference on Women in order to avoid duplication of work, keeping in mind that those resolutions were neither adopted by the Conference nor considered by the General Assembly;

26. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session on measures taken to implement the present resolution;

27. Also requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session on the state of preparation for the Fourth World Conference on Women under the item entitled "Advancement of women";

28. Decides to consider the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women to the Year 2000 at its forty-eighth session under the item entitled "Advancement of women".

DRAFT RESOLUTION IV

Migrant women workers

The General Assembly,

Recalling that the Charter of the United Nations reaffirms faith in human rights and fundamental freedoms, in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women,

Reaffirming the principles set forth in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, adopted by the General Assembly in resolution 34/180 of 18 December 1979,

Noting the large numbers of women from developing countries who venture forth to more affluent countries in search of a living for themselves and their families, while acknowledging the primary duty of States to work for conditions that provide employment to their citizens,

Recognizing that poverty, unemployment and other socio-economic situations in their home countries lead people, including women, to seek employment in other countries,

Recognizing also that it is the duty of sending countries to protect and promote the interests of their citizens who seek or receive employment in other countries; to provide them with appropriate training/education; and to apprise them of their rights and obligations in the countries of employment,

Aware of the moral obligation of receiving or host countries to ensure the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all persons within their boundaries, including migrant workers and in particular women migrant workers, who are doubly vulnerable because of their gender and their being foreigners,

Noting with concern the mounting reports of grave abuses and acts of violence committed against the person of women migrant workers by some of their employers in some host countries,

Stressing that acts of violence directed against women impair or nullify the enjoyment by women of their human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Convinced of the need to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women and to protect them from gender-based violence,

1. Expresses grave concern over the plight of migrant women workers who become victims of physical, mental and sexual harassment and abuse;

2. Calls upon all countries, particularly the sending and receiving States, to cooperate with each other in taking appropriate steps to ensure that the rights of women migrant workers are protected;

3. Urges all States to adopt appropriate measures to provide support services to women victims of violence, and to provide resources for their physical and psychological rehabilitation;

4. Calls upon relevant bodies and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations to inform the Secretary-General of the extent of the problem and to recommend further measures to implement the purposes of the present resolution;

5. Envisages the inclusion of the subject of violence against women migrant workers in the agenda of the World Conference on Women to be held in Beijing in 1995;

6. Requests the Secretary-General, in view of the time constraints and pending the completion of a written report, to make a preliminary oral report, through the Commission on the Status of Women and the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session, on the implementation of the present resolution under the item entitled "Advancement of women".